

Appl. No.: 10/693,212  
Preliminary Amdt. dated: January 16, 2004

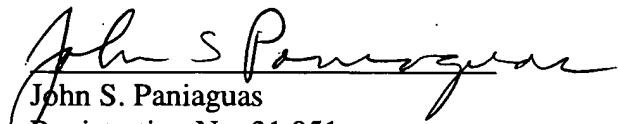
**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter this Preliminary Amendment and provide favorable consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

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